

## **DNRC, State Water Projects Bureau, Canal Project Proposal - Fact Sheet**

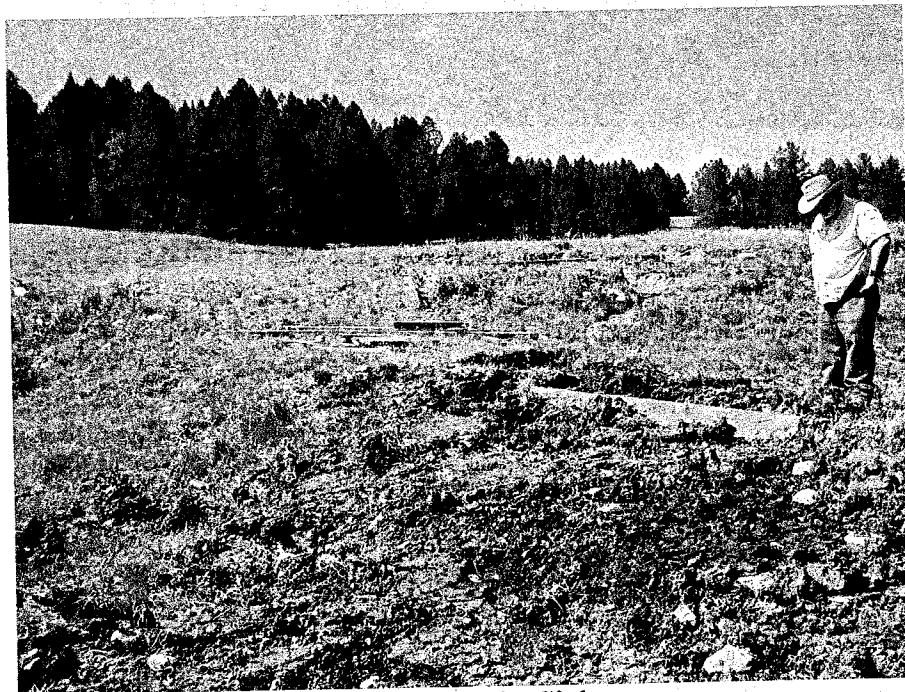
### **REPLACEMENT OF THE EAST FORK SIPHON**

The Flint Creek Water Project, located in Granite County, was completed in 1938. A main component of the Project, the East Fork siphon, conveys water from the 16,040 acre-feet East Fork Reservoir to a forty-mile network of irrigation delivery canals. The sixty four-year-old siphon is slowly deteriorating from corrosion. It is composed of a 54-inch diameter steel pipe (1/4" thick), measuring 4056-feet in length. It conducts a flow of 150 cfs during the irrigation season peak. The project irrigates most of the upper and lower Philipsburg Valley.

In the last four years, siphon has been shutdown several times in order to repair nine holes, two cracks, and one concrete pipe-anchor. The siphon now risks total structural failure. The siphon needs to be replaced due to its age and progressive deterioration. The entire length of Flint Creek has been identified as Bull Trout Habitat (USF&WS, 2002). The lower reaches are designated as foraging, movement, and over-winter habitat. The upper reaches of Flint Creek and its entire tributary, Boulder Creek have been identified as critical bull trout habitat (USF&WS 2002). Not taking action to replace the siphon and maintain the current flow regime in Flint Creek could be construed as a violation of Section 7, (1), (A) of the Endangered Species Act. Total estimated cost of the project is \$1,600,000. Proposed funding includes a \$100,000 RRGL grant and \$400,000 loan, and \$300,000 from the Water Storage Account. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Conservation Service is providing \$480,000 of matching funds for the project, with the possibility of an additional \$250,000.



Tempoprary Repairs being made using Metal Straps



Seepage from the Siphon

